

Message Text

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63

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05

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SUBJ: WORLD PEACE COUNCIL HOLDS FIRST LATIN AMERICAN MEETING

1. THE BUREAU OF THE PRESIDENCY OF WORLD PEACE COUNCIL IS MEETING IN PANAMA CITY OCTOBER 15-18. THE DIRECTING BOARD OF THE THIRD WORLD/COMMUNIST LINE-ORIENTED ORGANIZATION IS COMPOSED OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM 25 COUNTRIES, INCLUDING PANAMA, AND HAD NEVER MET IN A LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRY. WE UNDERSTAND COUNCIL WILL FOCUS ON MATERIAL RESOURCES. RESOLUTIONS WILL STRESS THE RIGHT OF EVERY COUNTRY TO CONTROL ITS OWN NATURAL RESOURCES, WITH SPECIAL MENTION OF PANAMA'S POSITION REGARDING THE CANAL.

2. PRESS COVERAGE OF THE EVENT HAS BEEN SPARSE AND LARGELY LIMITED TO GOP-CONTROLLED CRITICA. CAMILO O. PEREZ, A CRITICA COLUMNIST AND ACTING RECTOR OF THE UNIVERSITY LAW FACULTY, IS A MEMBER OF THE WORLD PEACE COUNCIL PRESIDENCY AND IS THE LOCAL ORGANIZER OF THE EVENT.

CRITICA HAS STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE MEETING. FALSELY IDENTIFYING THE COUNCIL AS "AN ORGANISM OF THE UNITED NATIONS," IT EDITORIALIZED OCTOBER 15 THAT "WAR WILL NOT CEASE SO LONG AS THERE DOES NOT EXIST A NEW ECONOMIC ORDER BASED INTERNATIONALLY-
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AS THE CHARTER (OF THE UNITED NATIONS) AFFIRS - ON THE RIGHT OF

ALL PEOPLES TO EXERCISE CONTROL AND SOVEREIGNTY OVER THEIR RAW MATERIALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES...THE QUESTION IS FUNDAMENTAL IN THESE TIMES WHEN PEACE IS SEEN THREATENED EVERYWHERE BY REASON OF THE ECONOMIC DISEQUILIBRIUM WHICH THE IMPERIALIST POWERS MAINTAIN AGAINST THE UNDERDEVELOPED COUNTRIES."

3. AFTER NOON ARRIVAL OCTOBER 15 OF DELEGATES FROM OTHER 24 COUNTRIES, COMMEMORATIVE CEREMONIES WERE HELD TO HONOR "MARTYRS" OF 1964 RIOTS. RECTOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PANAMA, DR. ROMULO ESCOBAR BETHANCOURT, WELCOMED THE DELEGATES AND PROMISED SUPPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY. FOREIGN MINISTER JUAN ANTONIO TACK WAS BILLED TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL AT ITS OPENING SESSION BUT DID NOT. HE TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT HE DOES NOT INTEND TO SPEAK AT WPC.
JORDEN

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